

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 8, 10 to 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Takeuchi et al. (US 4,694,749). Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi et al. in view of Banke (US 4,872,407). Claims 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi et al. in view of Chretienat et al. (US 6,167,806). Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi et al. in view of Hunold et al. (US 6,165,732).

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 19 and 20 have been added.

Reconsideration of the application based on the following is respectfully requested

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1 to 8, 10 to 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Takeuchi et al. (US 4,694,749).

Takeuchi discloses providing two angle-shaped register marks m, m formed near opposite ends as shown in Fig. 6. On the cylinder shaft of each plate cylinder is a datum point setting device which sets a datum point S. When the registering is correct, the distances from the datum point S to a horizontal line of the marks m of all plate cylinders is equal. See col. 5, line 53 to col. 6, line 10.

Claim 1 of the present invention recites a method for presetting motor phase in a web printing press comprising the steps of:

- providing a mark on a first printing form, the mark varying as a function of a desired preset phase for a motor driving the first printing form during printing;
- reading the mark using a sensor, the sensor having a sensor output; and
- presetting the phase of the motor as a function of the sensor output.

The mark itself of the present invention varies as function of the desired preset phase for the motor, for example by being located at a different location (Fig. 2) or having a different bar code (see Fig. 3).

In Takeuchi, there is no teaching or indication that the marks m, m vary at all. In fact they always seem to be at a same location on the plate and have the same shape irrespective of

the desired preset phase. The datum setting device 62 sets any desired preset phase via the datum setting device 62.

In fact, Takeuchi does not provide a mark on a first printing form, "the mark varying as a function of a desired preset phase for a motor driving the first printing form during printing" as claimed.

Claim 13 recited a printing form comprising a main image area and a mark indicative of a desired preset motor phase. The marks m, m of Takeuchi are not indicative of a desired preset motor phase, as they are always the same. It is the datum setting device 62 in Takeuchi which indicates what the preset phase should be, and the marks m, m serve as a reference point.

With respect to claim 14, claim 14 recites a web printing press comprising:

a first printing group for printing a first web and having at least one first drive motor and at least one first printing form, the first printing form having a first mark providing first preset motor phase information for presetting the first drive motor to a first preset phase.

The horizontal lines of marks m, m do not provide any first preset motor phase information, as with the present marks. The marks do not vary and thus cannot provide any information on the preset motor phase. The horizontal lines of the marks m, m are used as reference points for the datum setting device which provides the preset information. The vertical lines also do not provide any information for presetting a motor phase, as they are related to axial registration.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1 to 8, 10 to 14 and 16 thus is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi et al. in view of Banke (US 4,872,407). Claims 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi et al. in view of Chretienat et al. (US 6,167,806). Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi et al. in view of Hunold et al. (US 6,165,732).

For the reasons submitted with respect to claims 1 and 14 above, withdrawal of the rejections to these claims is respectfully requested.

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Amdt. dated November 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of September 3, 2004

Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) thus is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,

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